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Diana T Fritz 05/24/2007 04:34:05 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

April 09, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 1727 - PRIORITY)
TAGS: KPAO
Captions: None
Subject: TF1Z01: EMPOWERMENT, NOT CHARITY: PRESENTING
OUR MESSAGE ON HUMANITARIAN AID FOR THE IRAQI
PEOPLE
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 01727

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: PAO
INFO: ECON POL AMB DCM
Laser1:
ACTION: PAO

DISSEMINATION: PAO
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: AMB:MWAHBA
DRAFTED: PAO:KVANDEVATE
CLEARED: POL:SWILLIAMS

VZCZCADI233
PP RUEHC RUCNRAQ RHEHNSC RUEKJCS RUCJACC
DE RUEHAD #1727 0991249
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 091249Z APR 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9349
INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OSD/NESA//
RUCJACC/USCINCENT MACDILL AFB FL//POLAD//

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SIPDIS

FOR IRAQ TASK FORCE PD/PA GROUP; NEA/NGA; NEA/PPD

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [KPAO](#) [IZ](#) [TC](#)
SUBJECT: TF1Z01: EMPOWERMENT, NOT CHARITY: PRESENTING
OUR MESSAGE ON HUMANITARIAN AID FOR THE IRAQI
PEOPLE

WE ARE REBUILDING SOCIETY, NOT SUCCOURING THE NEEDY

11. NOW THAT THE BATTLE FOR BAGHDAD IS LARGELY WON, THE
MAJOR FOCUS OF OUR MESSAGE SHOULD BE THE RESTORATION OF
ORDER AND RULE OF LAW, THE REBUILDING OF IRAQI
INSTITUTIONS, AND THE TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY, GRADUAL OR

OTHERWISE, TO THE IRAQI PEOPLE. AS WE MOVE TO GET FOOD, WATER, MEDICINE, AND OTHER ESSENTIAL AID TO THE IRAQI POPULATION, THE MESSAGE WE PUT OUT SHOULD FOCUS NOT/NOT ON THE FACT THAT WE ARE HELPING THE NEEDY, BUT ON THE FACT THAT WE ARE BRINGING FREEDOM AND SECURITY TO THE IRAQI POPULATION. THIS SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY IMAGES OF OUR DELIVERY OF FOOD, WATER AND MEDICAL AID, BUT THE MAIN MESSAGE SHOULD BE ONE OF RECONSTRUCTION, NOT OF SUCCOUR OR CHARITY. AS THE PRESIDENT SAID IN BELFAST, IRAQIS ARE MORE THAN CAPABLE OF REBUILDING THEIR SOCIETY. WE ARE EMPOWERING THEM AFTER DECADES OF DISENFRANCHISEMENT, NOT MINISTERING TO THE WEAK AND POWERLESS. OUR INTERLOCUTORS HERE, WHETHER IRAQI, ARAB OR EMIRATI, REPEATEDLY REMIND US THAT BY HIGHLIGHTING FOOD AID, WE SEND A MESSAGE THAT SHAMES AND HUMILIATES.

DON'T REINFORCE FEELINGS OF POWERLESSNESS

12. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL REASONS OUR CAMPAIGN TO LIBERATE IRAQ HAS PLAYED OUT BADLY IN THE ARAB POPULAR MIND IS THAT IT REINFORCES THE FEELINGS, STRONGLY HELD HERE AND ELSEWHERE, THAT ARABS ARE WEAK AND BACKWARDS VIS-A-VIS THE WEST, THAT THEY ARE THE PAWNS OF GREAT POWERS, AND THAT THEY ARE POWERLESS TO DIRECT THEIR DESTINIES. AS WE SHAPE OUR MESSAGE TO THE IRAQI AND ARAB PUBLICS DURING THE COMING REBUILDING OF IRAQI SOCIETY, WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEND A POTENT MESSAGE NOT ONLY THAT AMERICA HAS BROUGHT FREEDOM TO THE IRAQIS, BUT ALSO THAT IRAQIS (AND IMPLICITLY ALL ARABS) ARE CAPABLE OF BUILDING THEIR OWN FUTURES WHEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY. FOR IRAQIS, ONE OF THE OLDEST AND PROUDEST CIVILIZATIONS, WHO HAVE SUFFERED FOR THIRTY YEARS UNDER SADDAM, EMPOWERMENT, NOT CHARITY, SHOULD BE OUR MESSAGE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, UNLESS THERE IS DEMONSTRABLE PROGRESS ON THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN FRONT, ANY MESSAGE WE SEND, HOWEVER SKILLFULLY TAILORED, WILL NOT RESONATE WITH THE BROADER ARAB PUBLIC.

WAHBA